the increase in length has not yet been allotted to the State Government; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) All proposals received from all States/Union Territories including Gujarat regarding declaration of new National Highways have been returned to the respective States/Union Territories as new National Highways are not being declared due to fund constraints.

(b) and (c) The funds for maintenance of National Highways are allocated to the States keeping in view of the overall availability of funds and *inter-se* priority.

Delay in completion of road projects

1081. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the 215th Flash Report of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation for September, 2003 about 94 road and transport projects have reported additional delays over the completion dates;

(b) if so, the details of the projects and their range of delays;

(c) the reasons for the delay;

(d) the project-wise cost escalation due to delay; and

(e) the steps being taken to complete the projects on time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) There are 31 projects, which have reported delays over the dates of completion.

(b) and (c) The details are given in Statement-I. (*See* below)

(d) The contracts are still at various stages of implementation.

(e) The details are given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

Details of projects which have reported delay as per 215th flash report of Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation

Sl. No.	Name of Project	NH No.	Range of delay with respect to original date of completion (In months)	Reasons for delay
1	Westerly Diversion	4	14	Delayed due to major increase in scope of work to make it access controlled facility. The project has since been completed.
2	Atul-Kajali	8	8	Tardy implementation by the contractor: land acquisition, additional work, prolonged monsoon.
3	Tada-Chennai (TN-1)	5	3	Land acquisition, permission to borow area from State Govt. delayed.
4	Belgaum Bypass	4	4	Clearance of ROB, quarry, poor performance by contractor.
5	Palasa-Srikakulam	5	3	Cash Flow problem by the contractor, delay in land acquisition and floods in September, 2003.
6	Kanchipuram-Poonamalee	4	4	Land acquisition, utility shifting, quarry, poor performance by contractor.
7	Dhankuni-Kolaghat (WB-I)	6	1	Land acquisition, utility shifting, clearance of ROB, difficult site condition, poor performance by contractor.
8	Kharagpur-Laxmanath (WB-IV)	60	2	Land acquisition.
9	Bhadrak-Chandikhole (OR-II)	5	6	Delay in bridge structures under bridge package in Orissa (OR-V), land

Sl. No.	Name of Project	NH No.	Range of delay with respect to original date of completion (In months)	Reasons for delay
				acquisition and un seasonal heavy rains.
10	Bridge Section (AP-20) from- km 80-km 162	5	4	Unprecedented heavy rains and land acquisition.
11	Surat (Chalthan)-Atul	8	8	Tardy implementation by the contractor, Earthquake.
12	Srikakulam-Champawati (AP-1)	5	4	Land acquisition, utility shifting, quarry, poor performance by contractor.
13	Khurda-Sunakhala (OR-VI)	5	6	Land acquisition & forest clearance, utility shifting, law and order, cash flow problem.
14	Kolaghat-Kharagpur (WB-II)	6	6	Land acquisition, utility shifting, law & order problem, quarry site clearance.
15	Balasore-Bhadrak (OR-II)	5	11	Land acquisition, utility shifting, law & order problem, quarry site, clearance of ROB, poor performance by constractor.
16	Dehri-on-sone-Aurangabad (TNHP/IV-D)	2	4	Land acquisition, utility shifting, clearance of ROB, quarry, law & order poor performance by contractor.
17	Divancheru (near Rajahmundry)-Gowthami (AP-17)	5	6	Land acquisitiion, utility shifting, adverse weather conditions, poor performance by contractor.
18	Pallikonda-Ranipet and Walahjapet bypass (KR-3)	46	5	Poor performance by contractor.
19	Korlam-Palasa (AP-4A)	5	8	Land acquisition and tardy implementation by the contractor and floods.

Sl. No.	Name of Project	NH No.	Range of delay with respect to original date of completion (In months)	Reasons for delay
20	Icchapuram-Korlam (AP-4B)	5	8	Land acquisition and tardy implementation by the contractor.
21	Hubli-Haveri	4	9	Tardy implementation by the contractor and non availability of aggregate as per specifications.
22	Vaniyambadi-Palikonda	46	4	Quarry problem.
23	Haveri-Harihar	4	4	Poor performance by contractor, quarry problem.
24	Mohania-Sasaram (TNHP/IV-B)	2	4	Law & order problem, tardy implementation by the contractor and utility shifting and land acquisition.
25	Harihar-Chitradurga	4	4	Poor performance by contractor.
26	Handia-Varanasi (TNHP/III-C)	2	5	Poor performance by contractor, land acquisition and utility shifting.
27	Fatehpur-Khaga (TNHP/II-C)	2	3	Slow progress by contractor, land acquisition and utility shifting.
28	Sunakhala-Ganjam (OR-VII)	5	8	Law & order problem, poor performance by the contractor, land acquisition, forest clearance, law & order problem and utility shifting.
29	Ganjam-Icchapuram (OR-VIII)	5	10	Poor performance by the contractor, land acquisition and utility shifting.
30	Laxmannath-Baleshwar (OR-4)	60	12	Land acquisition, law & order and work stoppage by local people.
31	Vivekananda Bridge and Approach	2	6	Court case.

Statement-II

Steps taken for timely completion of projects

(1) Taking up issues regarding land acquisition, removal of utilities, law and order etc. at the highest level of the State Governments.

(2) Nomination of senior officers as nodal officers by the State Governments to co-ordinate issues relating to execution of the projects.

(3) Official level meetings with the State Governments concerned and Ministry of Railways to resolve problems.

(4) Regular monitoring through daily and weekly progress reports.

(5) Regular meetings at the level of Minister to review the progress and performance of contractors/consultants/officials of NHAI.

(6) Provisions of incentives such as bonus for early completion of projects and disincentive such as damages for delay in completion of the contracts.

Linking of sixteen capitals with roads

†1032. SHRI LAJPAT RAI:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a 2,768 km. long road construction project is under consideration with a view to linking the sixteen capitals of various States;

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the State capitals identified for the purpose; and

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) to (c) There is no proposal of linking the sixteen capitals of various

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.